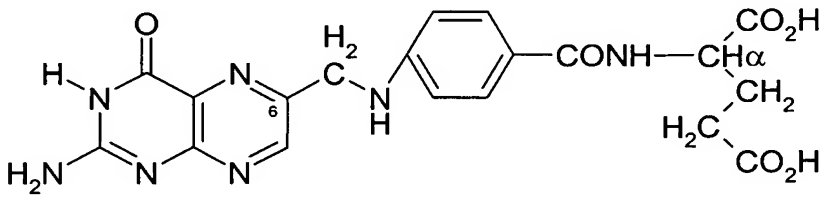
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Folic acid ~~satisifies~~ is depicted in formula I,

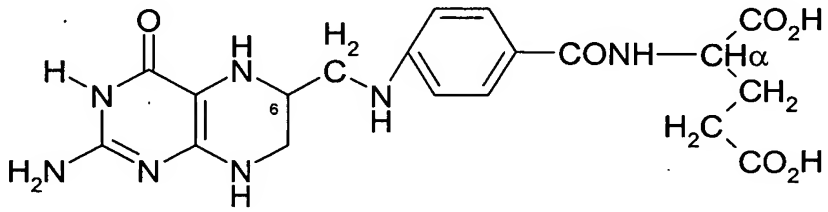


(I),

where the asymmetric α-C atom may be present in the glutaminic acid residue in the S configuration (αS) or in the R configuration (αR). Hereinafter the enantiomers of folic acid will be referred to as (αS) folic acid and (αR) folic acid. The same goes for the folic acid esters and their derivatives. They will be referred to as (αS) folic acid esters and (αR) folic acid esters. Naturally occurring folic acid corresponds to (αS) folic acid.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 27 and bridging page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Tetrahydrofolic acid ~~satisifies~~ is depicted in formula II,

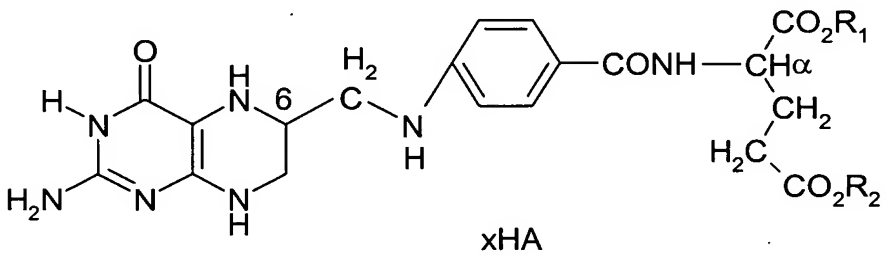


where the asymmetric α-C atom may be present in the glutaminic acid residue in the S configuration (αS) or in the R configuration (αR), and the asymmetric C atom 6 in the tetrahydropterin radical may be present in the S configuration (6S) or R configuration (6R). Hereinafter the diastereomers of tetrahydrofolic acid will be referred to as (6S,αS), (6S,αR),

(6R,αS) and (6R,αR) tetrahydrofolic acid. The same goes for the tetrahydrofolic acid esters and their derivatives. They will be referred to as (6S,αS), (6S,αR), (6R,αS) and (6R,αR) tetrahydrofolic acid esters. Naturally occurring tetrahydrofolic acid corresponds to (6S,αS) tetrahydrofolic acid.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The addition salts of the tetrahydrofolic acid esters may ~~satisfy~~ be of formula III and embrace the (6S,αS), (6S,αR), (6R,αS) and (6R,αR) diastereomers,



xHA (III),

in which R_1 or R_2 denotes H, and one of R_1 or R_2, or both R_1 and R_2 independently of one another represent a monovalent hydrocarbon radical or a heterohydrocarbon radical attached via a C atom, with heteroatoms selected from the group comprising -O-, -S- and -N-,

HA stands for an aromatic sulphonic acid,

and x denotes an integer from 1 to 6 or a fractional number between 0 and 6.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

The aromatic sulphonic acids most preferably ~~satisfy~~ are of formula IV,

R_3-SO_3H (IV),

in which R_3 represents phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with F, Cl, Br, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 haloalkyl or C_1-C_4 alkoxy. Some specific examples of R_3 are phenyl, methyl phenyl, fluorophenyl, chlorophenyl, trichloromethyl phenyl and trifluoromethyl phenyl.